

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 27, 2005 it was noted that Applicant's arguments presented in both Response A and Addendum to Response A were considered by the Examiner. It was further noted that the Examiner had decided to vacate the Restriction/Election requirement mailed on October 7, 2004 and has adopted Applicant's proposed restriction of the claims, which was originally presented in Response A.

Since the proposed restriction by Applicant in Response A is not considered official, the Examiner in the July 27, 2005 Office Action required election of one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-43, 75-91, 92-108, 109-126, 127-143, 144-159, 160-174, and 175-184 drawn to a fixation device, classified in class 606, subclass 73;
- II. Claims 44-60 and 186 drawn to a fixation device, classified in class 606, subclass 104;
- III. Claims 61-74, 187-189, and 190 drawn to a fixation device, classified in class 606, subclass 86; and
- IV. Claim 185 drawn to a method, classified in class 606, subclass 53.

Responsive to the Restriction/Election requirement in the July 27, 2005 Office Action, Applicant hereby elects examination of the claims of invention I as detailed above and in said July 27, 2005 Office Action.

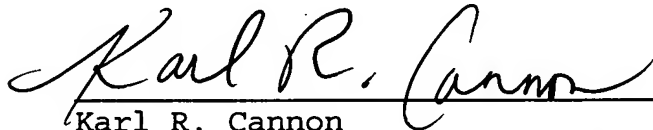
CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that claims 1-43 and 75-184 are all allowable as originally filed, and a finding of the same is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Election, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to initiate the same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

DATED this 22 day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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